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No 4

WEIRD TALES OF TERROR

HORRIFIC

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Most

REDUCE

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BODY WITH

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MUSCULAR ACES:

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LOSE WEIGHT OR NO CHARGE

USED BY EXPERTS

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LOSE WEIGHT OR NO CHARGE

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MAIL THIS 10 DAY FREE TRIAL COUPON NOW!

Hugh Lanson's face was as ugly as sin, but only as ugly as the evil that lurked within his soul! Greed and ambition were his idols--and murder was his weapon. But every man must reckon with death! Thus, when the greatest race was announced to all, it was to be--Lanson's

LAST RIDE!



HA, HA...HE'LL NEVER
BEAT ME AS LONG AS
HE LIVES! HUGH LANSON
ALWAYS FINISHES
FIRST!



...AND THE RACE IS OVER
FOLKS! BUT KEEP YOUR
SEATS! THE JUDGES ARE
DELIBERATING OVER THE
WINNER! THAT WAS
MIGHTY CLOSE!



THE CROWD OF PEOPLE WERE EX-
CITED! A BUZZ OF CONVERSATION
WAVE THROUGH THE MASSES AMONG
OF HUMANITY AS IF THE ENTIRE
WHOLE WAS LIKE A GIANT BEE-HIVE.

JOHNNY RIVERS
WON THAT RACE
EASILY!

YOU'RE RIGHT,
LADY! HE
DESERVES IT!



ATTENTION--CAR NUMBER FOURTEEN
TAKES FIRST PLACE.. FOLLOWED BY CAR
NUMBER NINE!

OH NO! IT
CAN'T BE--!



WHY THE SUDDEN SILENCE? THE SUDDEN WAVE OF
HATE AND FEAR THAT PUSHED BACK THE CROWD?
VERY SIMPLE, YOU SEE! HUGH LANSON WAS THE
DRIVER OF CAR NUMBER FOURTEEN...

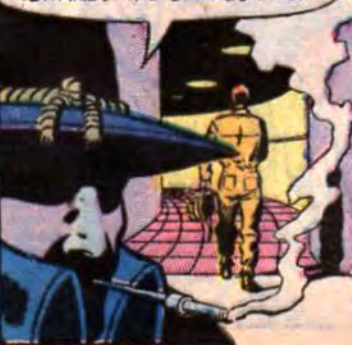
THIS RACE WAS A SWAP!
LOOK AT THE WAY THOSE
YOKELS CRINGE AWAY
FROM ME! BUT WHO
CARES? HA, HA...I WON,
AND THAT'S ALL THAT
MATTERS! NOW TO
TAKE OFF THIS HELMET...



I HATE THEM FOR NOT DARING
TO LOOK AT THIS FACE! YOU
CRUMMY HICKS! GOWAN--TAKE
A LOOK! IT'S HORRIBLE, ISN'T
IT? A BURNED FACE ALWAYS
IS--ALWAYS--AND FOREVER! BUT
I'LL LAUGH AT YOU YET! HA,
HA...I WON! I ALWAYS
WIN!!



HUGH LANSON WAS A SYMBOL
OF HORROR--LIVING PROOF OF THE
TERRIFYING RUTHLESSNESS THAT
LURKED IN ALL OF HUMANITY! AN
ACCIDENT IN HIS YOUTH HAD BURNED
HIS FEATURES UNTIL THE BARE
QUALITY OF HIS SOUL REMAINED
ETCHED IN REDDENED BELTS OF
EVIL! AND NOW HE WALKED
TOWARDS THE GRANDSTAND...



OH, DARLING!
WINNING ISN'T
EVERYTHING!
I LOVE YOU
MORE THAN
EVER!

VICKIE, HONEY..
I DON'T HAVE
TO BE RICH
THROUGH RACING!
YOU'RE MY
TREASURE!!





HUGH LANSON FELT A SPECIAL ANIMOSITY! TOWARDS JOHNNY RIVERS, HIS RIVAL HAD ALL THE THINGS HE SOUGHT DESPERATELY TO BUY WITH HIS RACING MONEY! BUT FAME, FRIENDSHIP, AND LOVE CAN'T BE BOUGHT, SO ALMOST EVERY NIGHT AT A CHEAP WATERFRONT TAVERN...



HUGH LANSON SANK HIS HEAD INTO HIS HANDS AND SOBBED OUT HIS FRUSTRATED HATE AGAINST THE WORLD! THEN--AS THE SLIMEY SMOKE DRIFTED ABOUT HIM...



SHE HAS BENT CLOSER TO GRASP ONE OF LANSON'S HAM-LIKE PAWS INTO HER OWN SHRIVELED CLAWS! HER FACE SCREWED UP WITH CUNNING BOLDNESS AS SHE PREPARED TO SQUAWK OUT HER WELL-LEARNED GIBBERISH. THEN....



AMIEEE! Y-YOUR HAND...IT-IT'S GOT THE SIGN OF--! N-NO...I-I CAN'T READ IT!

COME ON, YA OLD BAG! I DIN'T GIVE YOU TWO-BITS FER NOTHING! GO INTO YOUR SPIEL-- EVEN IF IT'S BALONEY! GO AHEAD, I SAID!

P-PROMISE ME YOU WON'T HURT ME AFTERWARDS! I-I CAN ONLY TELL YOU WHAT'S WRITTEN IN YOUR HAND! REMEMBER-- YOU'RE FORCING ME...



DEATH IS AT YOUR ELBOW! YOU'RE TO MEET HIM SOON-- UNLESS YOU CAN TRICK HIM OUT OF HIS DUE!

...DEATH 'EH? THAT'S A PRETTY GOOD LINE, MAGGIE! BUT THEN I CHEAT DEATH ALL THE TIME! HA, HA...



THE HOURS SPED BY, AND TOWARDS DAWN, A CRUMPLED FIGURE LURCHED OUT OF THE DARKENED TAVERN AND GROPED HIS WAY THROUGH THE LITTERED ALLEY...

S-SHE'S RIGHT...HICE...I GOTTA TRICK DEATH! BUT WITH THIS FACE, EVERYONE HATES ME! RIVERS IS NICE-LOOKING..RIVERS HAS EVERYTHING... MAYBE THAT OLD HAG CAN GET ME INTO HIS BODY.. HA..HA..BOY WHAT A LAUGH!



BUT HUGH LANSON NOW WAS CONVINCED THAT HIS ONLY SALVATION LAY SOMEHOW WITH THE OLD HAG! THE FOLLOWING WEEKS BROUGHT ABOUT A FANTASTIC CHANGE IN HIS PERSONALITY! HE GRADUALLY BEFRIENDED RIVERS, AND ONE EVENING IN HIS ROOM...

NO HARD FEELINGS ANY MORE, PAL! I'M SORRY FER ACTIN' LIKE I DID! DOWN TH' HATCH TO OUR NEW FRIENDSHIP!

OKAY, HUGH! NO HARD FEELINGS!



OHH...HHH.. M-MY HEAD.. Y-YOU'VE DRUGGED THIS DRINK!

THAT'S RIGHT, PAL! YOU WON'T HAVTA WORRY 'BOUT NOTHING, WHERE YOU'RE GOING! COME ON IN, MAGGIE! HA HA...



HUGH
LANSON
HAD LOST
ALL TRACES
OF SANITY!
A
CONSTANT
STRUGGLE
WITH THE
UGLINESS
OF HIS
FACE AND
THE
INSTINCTIVE
FEAR OF
PEOPLE ON
VIEWING
IT, HAD
DRIVEN
HIM TO
THE DEPTHS
OF
MANIACAL
DESPERATION!



THIS IS CRAZY! I--I
SHOULDN'T HAVE LET
YOU TALK ME INTO
THIS! THINGS LIKE WHAT
YOU SAY JUST CAN'T
HAPPEN! I--UH--W-WHAT
ARE YOU DOING?

EXACTLY WHAT
I'VE TOLD YOU!
MAGIC IS A
SKILLED
ART! HEH,
HEH, HEH...



AAAAA! I--I'M
GOING OUT OF
MY BODY! HELP!
HELP!

NO NEED TO SCREAM,
YOUNG MAN! ONCE THE
SPELL IS CAST, IT CANNOT
BE STOPPED! HEH, HEH...



I--I'M BEING SUCKED
INTO A WHIRLPOOL!
I-I CAN'T GRAB ONTO
ANYTHING! HELP!
SAVE ME!!
YAAAAAAHHH!

BACK INTO THE BEYOND, SPED THE SHRIEKING SOUL OF
HUGH LANSON--BACK INTO THE DEPTHS OF NO RETURN!
AND THEN--ALL THE DEMONS OF HADES ROSE ABOUT HIM!



HE RETURNS TO US, BROTHERS! THE SOUL OF HUGH
LANSON HAS FORFEITED ITS BODY! SEIZE IT AND
CONDUCT THE PROPER INITIATION INTO OUR MIDST!

HA, HA, HA...

N-NO! DON'T
TOUCH ME! LET ME
GO! I-LL ESCAPE!



I-LL GET
AWAY! I--UH--
W-WHERE AM I?
OH... I DREAMT
I WAS--Y-AAAA!
I'M IN RIVERS'
BODY! YOU
DID IT!

HEH, HEH. YES--
AS I PROMISED
I WOULD--BUT
FOR A PRICE!
YOU GUARANTEED
ME TEN
THOUSAND
DOLLARS! I
WANT IT
NOW!



SURE! MAGGIE!
JUST COME OVER
HERE WHERE I
CAN BE NEAR
YOU!

Y--YOU'RE
GOING TO
KILL ME!
B--BUT YOU
DON'T KNOW
WHAT YOU'RE
DOING! ONLY I
CAN SAVE YOU
FROM YOUR
DESTINY!
D-DON'T!



GOODBYE, MAGGIE!
YOUR FANTASTIC
SPELLS AND CON-
COCTIONS ARE
GONNA CROAK
WITH YOU!
HA, HA...

YOU FOOL!
THE BEYOND
WILL COME
FOR YOU
WITHOUT ME...
TH--THE...AGH
AGHH--HH--



"JOHNNY RIVERE" NOW MARRIED HIS GIRL, AND TOOK OVER A NEW WORLD OF NORMALITY--WHERE PEOPLE LOOKED AT HIM WITH SMILES--NOT HATE! THEN ONE DAY...



SO "JOHNNY RIVERE" ENTERED THE GREATEST CAR RACE OF THE YEAR IN WHAT WAS TO BE HIS LAST COMPETITIVE TOURNAMENT. THE PRIZE-MONEY WOULD BUY HIM A NEW FACE--WIN HIM A NEW REPRIEVE ON LIFE...



BUT THE RACER HAD NOT RECKONED WITH FATE! HIS CAR ROUNDED THE FOURTH PYLON, AND THEN---



A GREATER POWER THAN HUGH LANSON'S WILL
HAD DECREED THAT THIS RACE WOULD BE
RUN IN THE DOMAIN OF THE DEAD!



SIMULTANEOUSLY, AT THE RACE-
TRACK...



BUT MINUTES LATER...



THUS, THE SOUL OF HUGH
LANSON HAD CHANGED
THE FLESH OF ITS HOST!
EVIL HAD BEFALLEN THE
ONE WHO EVIL DID! AND
THIS BE MY WARNING TO
YOU, MY FRIEND! LET
NOT YOUR CONSCIENCE
CONDONE EVIL--FOR
I AM DEATH!

The END

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COME, COME YOUNG MAN... I GIVE YOU A CHOICE NO OTHER CONQUEROR WOULD BESTOW-- THIS BLOOD RED RUBY WORTH A THOUSAND RANSOMS, AND YOUR LIFE OR YOUR SWEETHEART AND DEATH FOR BOTH OF YOU--DECIDE!

NARINA W-WHAT SHALL I DO? OHH GIVE ME STRENGTH TO THINK!--SOB+

OUT OF THE AGES CAME A CURSE BLIGHTING THE HOLDER OF A TREASURE FABULOUS BEYOND WORDS... BEYOND BELIEF! ONLY THE MAN WHO POSSESSED IT DIED... NO MATTER WHAT THE RESISTANCE, FOR THIS WAS THE RING OF GHENGHIS KAHN--THE

RING OF DEATH

THE YEAR WAS 1942--ALGIERS--LAND OF THE MYSTERIOUS ORIENT... WHERE CUT-THROATS, MERCHANTS, DANCING GIRLS AND ALL SORTS OF PEOPLE BLENDED WITH THE THROBBING DRUMS OF NORTH AFRICA... NAZI SUBMARINE SAILORS PICKED THEIR WAY THROUGH THE CROWD...

HURRY, MAX, OR THE OBERLEUTNANT WILL PUNISH US!

BAH! THAT DOG DOES NOT APPRECIATE CULTURE, HANS! OUR FATHERLAND WILL BENEFIT FROM THE WISDOM OF THESE PEOPLE!

SURELY YOU ARE JOKING, MY FRIEND! THESE TREACHEROUS JACKALS WHO CALL THEMSELVES OUR ALLIES!

PERHAPS-- BUT THEY ALSO HAVE A GREAT HERITAGE! LOOK! THAT CURIO-SHOP! QUICKLY-- I MUST BUY A PRESENT FOR GRETA. WE STILL HAVE SOME TIME---



THE TWO MEN ENTERED THE INNER CONFINES OF THE CURIO SHOP INCENSE BURNED IN ONE CORNER--A WEIRD MUSIC WHINED EERILY FROM THE BACKGROUND, WHILE A GONG SOUNDED SOMEWHERE--FOLLOWED SWIFTLY BY THE PROPRIETOR...

YES, EFFENDI? IS THERE SOMETHING YOU WISH?

THAT JAR, THERE... IT'S THE BEST IN THE LOT! HOW MUCH?



N-NO! IT--IS NOT FOR SALE! YOU MAY BUY ANYTHING ELSE THAT I HAVE IN MY HUMBLE SHOP--BUT NOT THIS!

MAX--I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT! IT DOES LOOK INTERESTING!! HMMM--THE DECORATIONS ARE MADE OF GOLD!!



BEHOLD THIS PLATE, EFFENDI! I CAN SELL THAT FOR--UGGGHH!

SWINEHUND! WE DO NOT TOLERATE IMPERTINANCE! WE WISH THAT JAR! EITHER THAT OR YOUR SCRAWNY LIFE!



I--I AM FORBIDDEN TO SELL IT! PLEASE... IT IS CURSED!... YOU KNOW NOT THE CONSEQUENCES! DEATH SHALL OVERTAKE YOU!

SPARE US YOUR SCREECHINGS! HERE IS YOUR --- MONEY! MERCHANTS ARE ALL THE SAME! HA, HA... ALWAYS LYING!



A HALF-HOUR LATER, THE SAILORS HAD REPORTED BACK ON THEIR SHIP...

RICHTER--STIEHL--YOU ARE LATE!! FOR THAT YOU TWO SHALL HAVE NO LIBERTIES! DOWN BELOW... WE ARE ABOUT TO SUBMERGE!

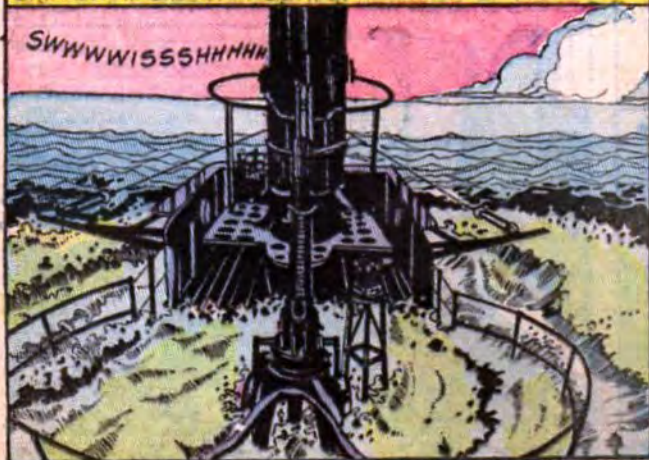
AT ONCE, HERR KAPITAN!

AT LEAST WE DO NOT LEAVE EMPTY-HANDED!



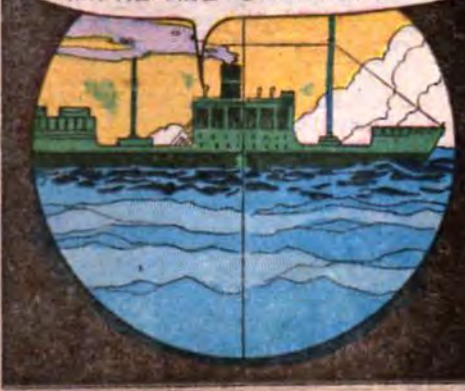
THE SUBMARINE GLIDED OUT TOWARDS THE OCEAN... OMNIOUS... SILENT... A DEADLY PANTHER OF THE SEA...

SWWWWISSSHHHHH



A FEW DAYS LATER, ON THE HIGH SEAS... AN ALLIED TANKER, MAKING ITS WAY TO A CHANNEL PORT...

COORDINATES 48 WEST BY 63 SOUTH... PREPARE FOR ACTION!

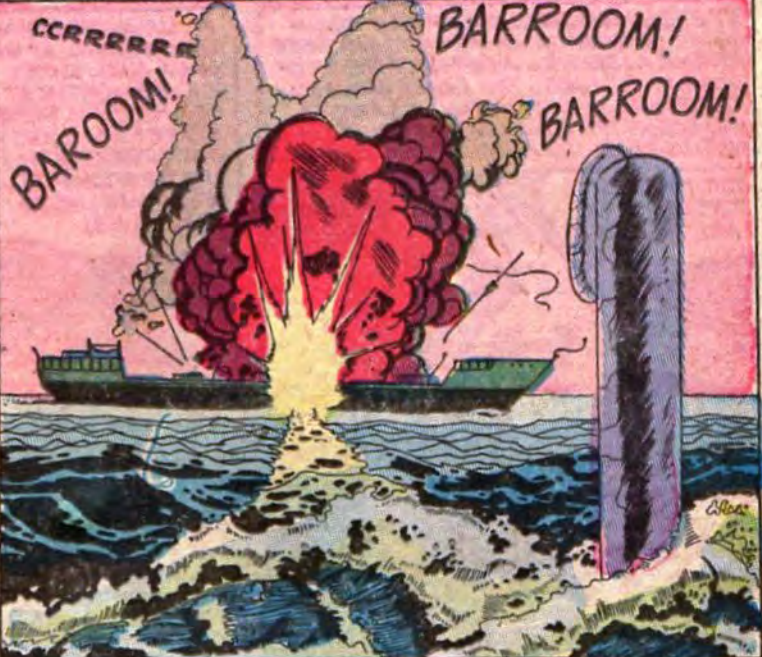


ACHTUNG!! TORPEDOS ONE TO THREE.. STAND BY! ALL ENGINES FULL STOP! PRESSURE DOWN TO 300 DEGREES! PREPARE TO FIRE! FIRE!!



HA, HA... SUCCESS! ANOTHER ALLIED VESSEL HAS BEEN SUNK... WELL DONE!! WE CAN NOW ALL HAVE SOME REST!

NOW--TO EXAMINE MY PURCHASE MORE CLOSELY! IT HAS BROUGHT US LUCK!



MAX RICHTER WALKED CASUALLY INTO THE ENGINE ROOM TO INSPECT HIS JAR. THE SMALL FIGURES SKILLFULLY ETCHED ONTO THE SURFACE, SEEMED TO WHIRL AND DANCE BEFORE HIM...

WUNDERBAR! HANS... WE HAVE STUMBLED ONTO A TREASURE! NO WONDER THAT FOOL DID NOT WISH TO PART WITH IT!

I STILL THINK YOU ARE CARRIED AWAY BY YOUR ENTHUSIASM, MAX! IT IS NOTHING BUT AN OLD ORDINARY JAR!

BUT WAS IT? THE ENGINES THROBBED MUTELY IN THE BOWELS OF THE SHIP. THE MEN CHANGED SHIFTS AND THE KILLER SUB GLIDED THROUGH THE WATERS OF THE DEER. AND IN HIS BUNK, SLEPT MAX RICHTER, DREAMING A STRANGE DREAM...

MAX... MAX RICHTER... I AM CALLING YOU... RICHTER... COME TO ME... COME...

I AM PRINCESS NARINA... I COME TO WARN YOU... TO SHOW YOU WHAT YOU HAVE INHERITED! YOU MUST LISTEN TO ME... LISTEN... LISTEN...

LET ME ALONE... LET ME ALONE... LET ME SLEEP... MUST HAVE SLEEP... MMMPPFF...



I WILL LIFT THE VEIL OF TIME AND SPACE FROM YOUR EYES. YOU SHALL LEARN OF THE TRUE EVENTS OF THE RING OF THE KHAN... BACK... BACK THROUGH THE CENTURIES... BACK TO THE BARBARIC SPLENDOR AND VIOLENCE... BACK TO DEATH!!



IT BEGAN DURING THE TERRIBLE REIGN OF THE CONQUEROR... A MAN WHO HAS SINCE BECOME A LEGEND... A TERRIBLE FIGURE OF DOOM TO HIS FOES... THE CRUEL MONGOL EMPEROR... GHENGIS KHAN, HIS ARMIES HAD BEGUN THEIR ONSLAUGHT THROUGH ASIA, PUTTING TO SWORD ALL WHO OPPOSED THEM...

YIIII! FLEE! IT IS HOPELESS! WE ARE ALL LOST!



FOLLOW ME! WE HAVE WON THIS DAY... AS WE SHALL ALWAYS! OUR ENEMIES SCATTER AT OUR FEET! KILL THEM! SPARE NO ONE! CUT OUT THEIR HEARTS AND THEIR TONGUES! LET NO MAN LIVE TO MALIGN ME!

AND A FEW LEAGUES AWAY WAS THE FABULOUS CITY OF KARTOUM WHERE I HELD REIGN... PRINCESS NARINA AND HER COURT, BETROTH OF KASIR, THE HANDSOME... PRINCE OF SARBOOL IN ASIA... UNSUSPECTING, CARELESS IN OUR DECADENCE...

THANK YOU, KASIR! LET US ENJOY TONIGHT!

WHILE OUTSIDE, SWEEPING TOWARDS US, CAME THE NIGHTMARE HORDE!!

YAAAAHILLAHAA! DEATH TO ALL!

ONWARD... TO THE CITY OF KARTOUM! TREASURE AWAITS US FAR BEYOND COMPARE!



HA, HA... MORE WINE! MORE MUSIC! LET US HAVE SONG!!

TO YOUR BEAUTY, MY BELOVED!



THEY FELL UPON US LIKE A PLAGUE OF EVIL-ETERNAL! WE COULD NOT RESIST! THERE WAS NO TIME! THOUSANDS DIED WITHIN MINUTES! MY PALACE BECAME BATHED IN A DEEP GORGE OF BLOOD! DEAD PILED UPON DEAD... AND ONLY BARBARIAN SWORDS RULED!

EIEEE! PLEASE! NO!

EVERYTHING IS OURS!! MAKE MERRY!

HA, HA, COME HERE, MY PRETTY ONE, YOU ARE MINE!



FIRE, FLAMES, AND THE SWORD WERE KHAN'S MOTTO... AND NONE SURVIVED TO DEFFY HIM! WE WERE BUT CHILDREN CAUGHT IN THE COILS OF THE COBRA SNAKE!

NO! EMPEROR! BEHOLD THE PRIZE I HAVE FOUND FOR YOUR MIGHTYNESS!!

NO! SHE IS MY BETROTHED! YOU CANNOT!!



SOMETHING WHO DARES QUESTION THE KHAN? YOU, YOUNG MAN... DO YOU NOT KNOW THAT YOU CAN HAVE YOUR HEAD LOPED OFF AT ONE FLICK OF MY FINGERS!

YES... Y... YES... BUT I LOVE HER, MIGHTY KHAN! PLEASE... SPARE HER... LET US GO IN PEACE! KEEP OUR WEALTH AND OUR CITY... ONLY SPARE HER!

HAHA... SHE IS A COMELY WENCH! SHE SHALL BE FIT FOR MY HAREM! BUT... I AM TOUCHED BY YOUR LOVE, YOUNG MAN... SO I WILL NOT DECREE MY USUAL PENALTY! INSTEAD... I OFFER YOU A CHOICE... THIS RUBY WORTH A MILLION IN TREASURE AND YOUR LIFE... OR YOUR BELOVED AND DEATH FOR BOTH OF YOU!!



WHAT CAN MY CHOICE BE? ALLAH... I CANNOT DECIDE!! IS MY LIFE MORE WORTHY THAN MY LOVE NARINAT?... GOLD... THINK OF IT... A RUBY FROM THE GREAT KHAN!



KASIR SLUNK AWAY INTO THE NIGHT, TAKING HIS BLOOD-STONE. BUT IT BROUGHT HIM HATE AND CONTEMPT... SCORN AND RIDICULE... WHEREVER HE WENT, BAD FORTUNE AND HOSTILITY FOLLOWED HIM...

PAH! GET THEE HITHER, WEAKLING! WE DO NOT WISH DOGS IN OUR TOWN!

IN TIME, HE MADE THE RUBY INTO A LARGE SIGNET RING WHICH HE ALWAYS WORE, A MARK OF HIS DISGRACE... FOR KASIR HAD LONG AGO ABANDONED HIMSELF TO HIS CONSCIENCE! HE BECAME A BEGGAR, DOOMED TO WANDER HOPELESSLY UNTIL ONE DAY...

BETRAVER! DEALER OF HONOR!

KILL HIM, BROTHERS! HE IS BUT CARRION! SEIZE HIS RING!

THE RUBY! GIVE ME THE RUBY!!

KASIR... YOU HAVE BETRAYED ME!! EEEEEEEEEE....

HA, HA... HERE IS YOUR STONE, POOL! LET HIM FREE! HE SHALL PAY A GREATER PENALTY THAN DEATH!



AND SO, THE EVIL STONE WAS INHERITED FROM PERSON TO PERSON... ALWAYS BRINGING DEATH AND DESTRUCTION! RICH MEN, BEGGARS, KINGS... LEARNED MEN, HALF-WITS... ALL SUFFERED HORRIBLY... UNTIL IT WAS SEALED AND HIDDEN FOREVER FROM MENS EYES...



NOW I HAVE WARNED YOU... I, SPIRIT OF NARINA, BETROTHED OF THE FAITHLESS KASIR WHO SPAWNED THE CURSE... GIVE UP THE RING, I BESECH YOU... OR... YOU SHALL DIE... DIE... DIE...

THE RING... THE RING... I... MWWWMPFF... I...

MAX! WHAT ARE YOU SHOUTING ABOUT... WAKE UP!



HANS! I--I HAVE BEEN WRONG! WE MUST RID OURSELVES OF THIS JAR! HERE... EJECT THIS THROUGH THE TORPEDO CHAMBER! I... IVE HAD A DREAM!

HA, HA... SO... NOW A SAILOR OF THE REICH BECOMES FRIGHTENED BY A DREAM...

ALL HANDS TO STATIONS!



W-WHAT WAS THAT??

THE PRESSURE WHICH WE LOWERED TO SINK THAT TANKER, IS COMPLETELY GONE! THE EXPLOSION HAS CAUSED A LEAK!

YA-A-AH! WE ARE SINKING!!



LOWER AND LOWER, THE PROUD SHIP, PLUMMETED, PENETRATING THE DEPTHS OF THE DARKNESS LIKE A KNIFE!



THE FIRST TO GO WERE THE LIGHTS... THEN THE REAR COMPARTMENT BUCKLED IN WITH WATER... THE ENGINES SPUTTERED INTO SILENCE... AND AIR HISSED CMINOUSLY THROUGH THE BROKEN VENTS, AND INSIDE MEN SCURRIED ABOUT LIKE RATS... LOST, SCREAMING FRANTIC...

WATER UP TO OUR ANKLES... AIR ALMOST OUT... THE RING HAS DOOMED US! WHY DID I TAKE THIS JAR? WHY?

GIVE ME THAT JAR YOU FOOL! I AM TIRED OF YOUR MEWLINGS! THERE IS NOTHING IN IT! UNDER STAND, NOTHING! NOTHING!



THERE! IT IS BROKEN! NOW DIE LIKE A MAN! DIE FOR OUR FATHERLAND! HEIL HITLER! LET SUPERSTITIONS SHATTER AS THIS JAR HAS SHATTERED!!

L-LOOK...! NO! NO!! IT... IT CAN'T BE...!!



A... A RING!!

YES... A RING... THE RUBY OF GHENGIS KHAN HIDDEN IN THE BASE OF THE JAR! HA... HA-HA!! THE RING OF DEATH!!



THE END.

HOW TO EMBALM A CORPSE



The art of preparing dead bodies for indefinite preservation is an old one which popular fancy supposes to have reached the limit of perfection in Egypt. This fancy has been supported mainly by folklore and the visible evidence of mummies in museums.

It has been supposed by some that the discovery of the preservation of bodies interred in saline soils may have been the immediate origin of embalming in Egypt. However it began, there is no doubt that the Egyptians carried the art to great heights, embalming not only human beings, but cats, crocodiles and other sacred animals. Eventually in that country certain classes of the community were specially appointed for the practice of the art.

Herodotus gives an account of three of the methods of embalming followed by the Egyptians. The most expensive of these, which cost the equivalent of about \$1,200 per corpse, was as follows:

The brains were extracted from the skull by means of a bent iron instrument inserted through the nostrils and the cavity cleansed with drugs. The intestines having been drawn out through an incision in the left side, the abdomen was flushed with palm wine and filled with myrrh, cassia and other materials and the opening sewed up. This done, the body was steeped seventy days in a solution of salt, actually sodium carbonate obtained from evaporated waters of the natron lakes in the Libyan desert and at El Hegs in Upper Egypt.

Incidentally, the cutter appointed to make the incision in the side for the removal of the intestines was chased away from the corpse with stones and curses as soon as the task was done, because the ancient Egyptians considered it a detestable thing to commit any violence or inflict any wound on the human body.

After the steeping, the body was washed and handed over to the swathers by whom it was wrapped in gummed cloth. It was then ready for the coffin.

The second method of embalming (priced at the equivalent of about \$500) started with the injection into the abdomen of a quantity of turpentine. This is stated by Herodotus to have had a corrosive and solvent action on the viscera. After injection the body was steeped for about two months in the aforementioned salt solution. The content of the abdomen was

then drained, and the process was considered complete.

The third method, used for embalming the bodies of the poorest classes, was simply to remove the intestines and soak the corpse in salt water for seventy days.

The material used for stuffing and for treating the cerecloth in the costlier modes of embalming appears to have been asphalt. Wax was not used so often. In some cases embalming was apparently effected by immersing the body in a bath of molten bitumen. Tanning was also employed. Occasionally the viscera after treatment were in part or wholly replaced in the body, together with wax figures of the four genii of Amenti. By ordinary, however, they were preserved in a mixture of sand and asphalt and buried in vases, known as *canopi*, placed near the mummy, the cavity of the abdomen being filled with chips and sawdust of cedar mixed with salt or what we would call sal soda. In one jar were placed the stomach and large intestine; in another the small intestines; in a third, the lungs and heart; in a fourth, the gall bladder and liver. At least, that was the prescription.

In the Middle Kingdom necropolis of Beni Hasan archeologists found many intact interments in coffins, and in one case the body was indeed well preserved. Several were accompanied by boxes divided into four compartments and inscribed with the names of the four deities who represented the internal organs of the body. But the boxes, examined by experts, contained no trace of organic remains, proving how much the Egyptians depended on magic imitations and make-believe.

In modern times, numerous methods of embalming have been practiced. The methods are differentiated mainly by the solutions used. Among these, alcohol was used by Dr. Ruysch of Amsterdam. By William Hunter, essential oils, cinnabar, camphor, saltpeter, and pitch or rosin were employed, and the final desiccation of the body was obtained by means of roasted gypsum placed in the coffin. J. P. Boudet embalmed with tan, salt, asphalt and Peruvian bark, camphor, cinnamon and other aromatics and corrosive sublimate. The last mentioned drug, chloride and sulphate of zinc, acetate and sulphate of alumina and creosote and carbolic acid have all been used by modern embalmers. The celebrated Gannal method utilized the injection of solutions of aluminium salts into the arteries.

As for the preservation of a body forever, the Egyptians found that corpses generally decay and disappear in spite of everything, so—as one authority puts it—in the absence of anything more efficacious it was customary to pronounce an embalmed corpse "*sahu*," an old word meaning "noble," or "*ikh*," which in the later period of Egyptian history meant a divine spirit, on the ground that magic words alone in the last resort made everything right.

NOTES ON THE HISTORY OF HORROR



BLOOD-MONEY nowadays is usually a term applied to the reward paid for betraying a criminal to justice. Originally, however, it meant only one thing: a penalty paid by a murderer to the kinsfolk of his victim. Such a fine, in the old days, completely protected the murderer from vengeance. This system of trading human life for cash was common among the Scandinavian and Teutonic races previous to the advent of Christianity, and a scale of payments, graduated according to the seriousness of the crime, was fixed by law, which further set forth who could exact the blood-money and who was entitled to share it.

Murder was not the only crime that could be completely excused by an appropriate financial gesture. All crimes of violence were included in the system of reimbursement prevailing during these days. However, there were two exceptions: crimes of violence taking place in church or within the precincts of a royal palace were considered inexcusable and the death penalty was automatic. Any criminal who ran afoul of these exceptions was fair game in any season and his enemies were encouraged to kill him whenever and wherever they found him.

Ancient Greece knew the custom. Homer mentions that one of the scenes on the shield of Achilles depicts an argument over the price of a man that has been slain. The slayer is saying that he has paid in full and the dead man's relative is saying that he has received nothing. Both are surrounded by their friends who are kept back by heralds. The issue is being settled by the elders who are seated on stones in a sacred circle, and in the middle are two pieces of gold, "to give to him who, among them all, sets forth the cause most rightly."

Incidentally, the two pieces of gold were equal in value at that time to two oxen, which shows what a man's life was worth to the Greeks.

Blood-money is mentioned in the Bible, too. One instance took place during the reign of King David when the Gideonites were put to death by Saul. The unavenged bloodshed could only be atoned by blood-money or by shedding the blood of the offender or of his family. The Gideonites demanded blood rather than money whereupon five sons of Merab and two sons of Saul's concubine were sacrificed.

The sophistication of offering a choice between blood and money was one also that bothered Mohammed, the Prophet. Before his time the option existed, but he established the law that if blood-money—called *diya*, varying in value according to the importance of the dead, from ten to fifty camels—were offered and in a fair amount, it must be accepted. And so it is today among the Bedouins of Arabia. **HEARTLESS CORPSES** were once common, because it was the practice to bury the heart apart from the body. This is a very ancient practice, the special reverence shown to the heart being due to its early association with the soul of man, his affections, courage and conscience. In medieval Europe heart-burial was fairly common, notable cases being those of Richard I, Henry III, Edward I and his wife, Louis IX, Philip III, Louis XIII, and Louis XIV.

The most curious story of heart-burial concerns that of the heart of James, marquess of Montrose, executed by the Scottish Covenanters in the year 1650. It was taken from his body, which had been buried by the roadside outside Edinburgh, and, enclosed in a steel box, was sent to the duke of Montrose, then in exile. It was lost on its journey, and years afterwards was discovered in a curiosity shop in Flanders. Taken by a member of the Montrose family to India, it was stolen as an amulet by a native chief, was once more regained, and finally lost in France during the Revolution.

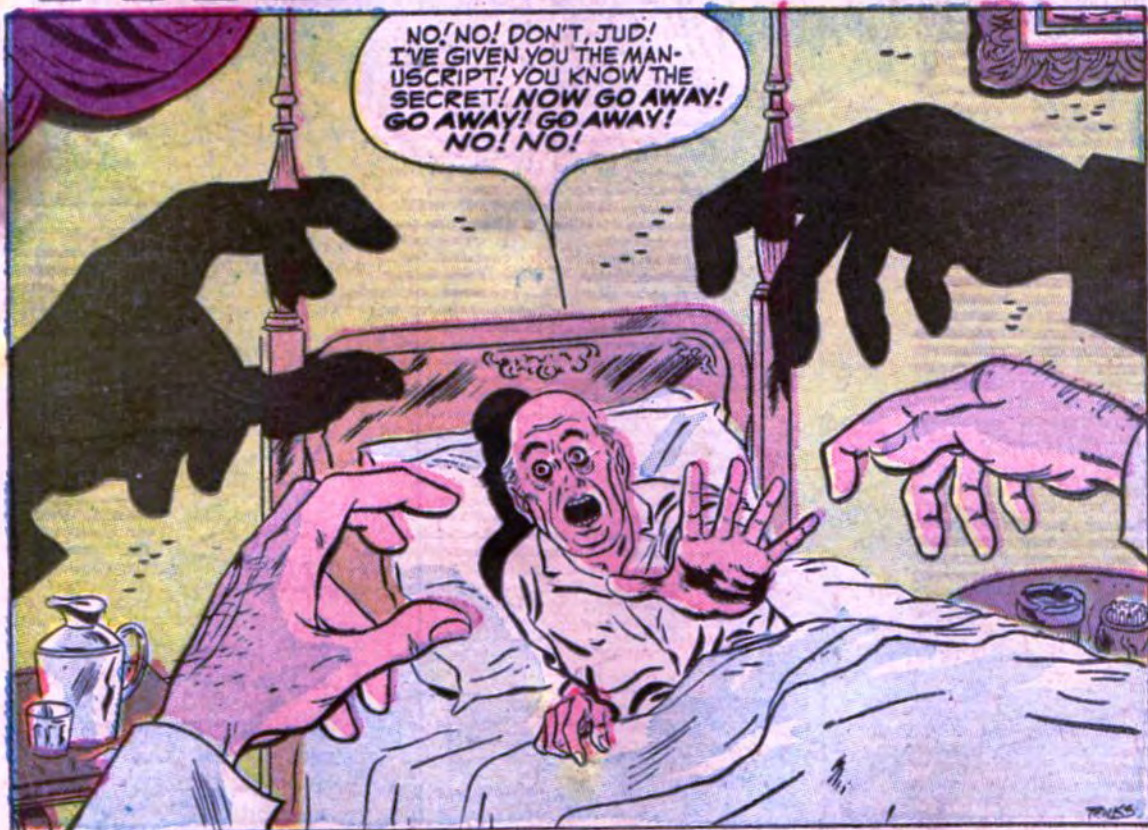
The last ceremonial burial of a heart in England was that of the secretary of the Monks of Medmenham club, Paul Whitehead, in 1775. Of later cases the most notable are those of Daniel O'Connell, whose heart is at Rome; the poet Shelley at Bournemouth; Louis XVII at Venice; Kosciusko at Lake Zurich; and, most recent, that of the marquess of Bute, taken by his widow to Jerusalem for burial only fifty years ago.

Sometimes other parts of the body, removed ceremoniously or even secretly, are given separate burial or preserved in various containers. An instance of this is the solemn burial given to the viscera of popes in the parish church of the Quirinal.

The custom of heart-burial was forbidden by Pope Boniface VIII, but Benedict XI withdrew the prohibition.

JUD WAYNE HAS EVERYTHING HIS WAY UNTIL HE COMES UPON...

THE COFFIN



"HA!" EXCLAIMS JUD WAYNE. "SO YOU CAN CALL IN THE POLICE? NO THANKS!"



HIS CLUTCHING BONY FINGERS ITCH TO PRESS THE OLD MAN'S THROAT...

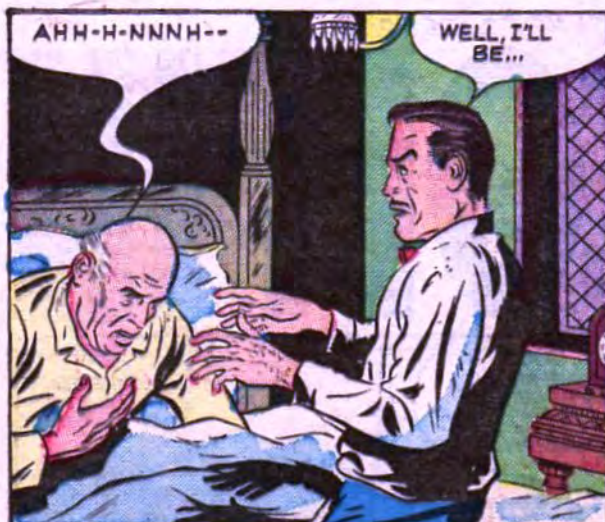


CLOSER MOVE THE HANDS... CLOSER AND CLOSER!



AND THEN... A LOOK OF PROFOUND SURPRISE!



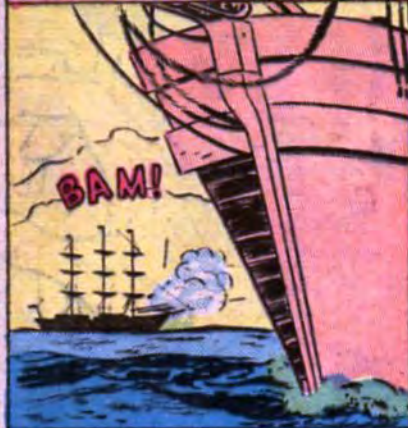


WITH A LOOK OF FRENZIED ANTICIPATION, JUD WAYNE GOES TO THE SMALL TABLE ACROSS THE ROOM, WHERE HE UNFOLDS A SHEAF OF YELLOWED PAPER...

WHEN I'VE READ THIS I'LL HAVE A FORTUNE IN MY HANDS! ENOUGH TO LIVE IN LUXURY FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!

IT IS A STRANGE DOCUMENT. JUD FROWNS IMPATIENTLY AS HE READS: DEPOSITION BY CAPTAIN EBENEZER MARLIN, FORMERLY OF THE AMERICAN BRIG MYRA, DATED JULY 19TH 1842. I SERVED MY COUNTRY THROUGHOUT THE WAR OF 1812.

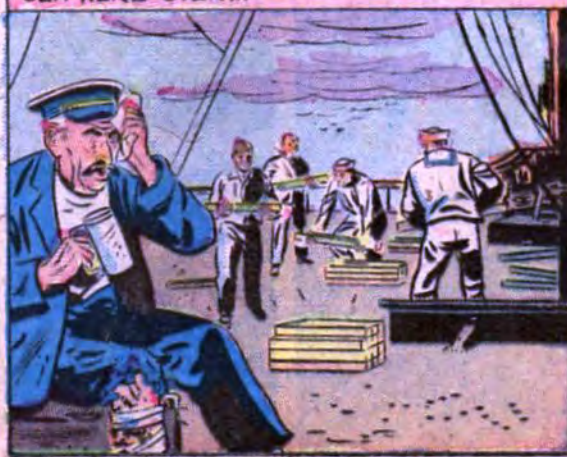
"ALTHOUGH THE MYRA WAS BUILT AS A MERCHANT VESSEL, WE WERE WELL ARMED. THE DIRECT REASON FOR THIS MANUSCRIPT ARISES FROM A BATTLE WITH THE ENGLISH MERCHANTMAN, **PENSIVE**, DURING THE LAST YEAR OF THE WAR..."



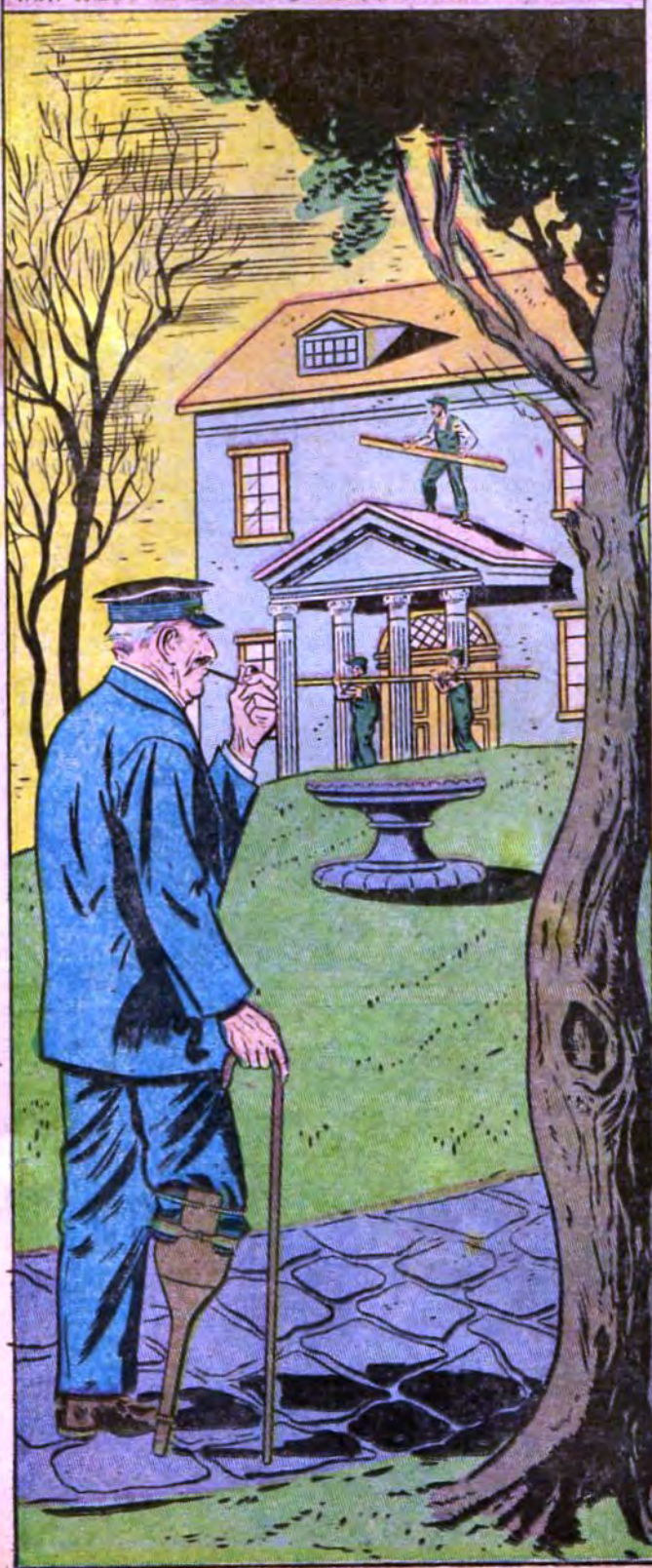
"THE FIGHTING WAS FIERCE, AND FINALLY WE BOARDED THE ENGLISH SHIP..."



"WE WON THAT BATTLE, AND CAPTURED A CARGO OF GOLD BULLION, BUT MY LEG WAS COMPLETELY SHATTERED AND MY DAYS AT SEA WERE OVER..."



"YET, WITH MY CAPTAIN'S SHARE OF THE BOOTY I HAVE BUILT A HOUSE IN SALEM THAT WILL BE A MONUMENT TO ME, AND I HAVE FOUNDED A FORTUNE THAT WILL LIVE ON FOR GENERATIONS..."



and I have hidden the Gold, where none shall know, save the oldest surviving heir of each generation who alone shall be entrusted with this manuscript. He will take one-twentieth of the fortune and divide it equally among my direct descendants of his generation. Let NO ONE take more than his share, or he shall suffer my eternal displeasure upon his soul.

Captain Ebenezer Marlin.

FOR MANY GENERATIONS, THE DESCENDANTS OF EBENEZER MARLIN HAVE BENEFITED BY THIS STRANGE DOCUMENT. THEY HAVE BEEN APROUD AND SOBER CLAN, BUT JUD WAYNE LIVES IN A NEW ERA. HE IS NOT AFRAID OF A DEAD MAN'S WARNING...

I'LL FIND THAT GOLD TONIGHT!



NICE OF GREAT-UNCLE ANDREW TO LEAVE THE TOOLS HERE! YES VERY NICE OF HIM!



I'VE FOUND IT! I'M RICH! **RICH!** THAT WAS A SMART TRICK SCARING MY UNCLE ANDREW INTO COMING ACROSS WITH THE DOPE! IT LOOKS LIKE THE MARLIN FORTUNE IS **ABOUT TO DISAPPEAR!** THAT IS, AS FAR AS ANY OTHER RELATIVES ARE CONCERNED!

OUTSIDE, THE ELEMENTS CRY IN PROTEST AND THE RAIN POUNDS A VIOLENT TATTOO AGAINST THE OLD MANSION...

THE ROAR OF THE BIG STORM SHUTS OUT THE SOUND OF THE TURNING OF THE FRONT DOOR-KNOB...



SO INTENT IS JUD WAYNE ON HIS DEVILISH TASK, THAT HE DOES NOT HEAR THE SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS OVERHEAD, OR THE CREAKING OF THE CELLAR STAIRS, UNTIL A VOICE SAYS...

IT'S NOT JUST CHANCE, DEAR COUSIN, I MET ONE OF YOUR MANY BABES ON THE STREET. SHE SAID YOU BROKE A DATE WITH HER TO GO TO SALEM. THERE'S ONLY ONE THING THAT WOULD BRING YOU HERE TO SALEM--THE FAMILY FORTUNE! SO I CAME HERE, TOO! PRONTO!



I'M A YEAR OLDER THAN YOU, REMEMBER? I'M NOT LETTING YOU GET YOUR PAWS ON THAT DOUGH! BESIDES, I'VE BEEN UPSTAIRS! I'VE SEEN UNCLE ANDREW'S BODY, YOU DIRTY KILLER! I'M TURNING YOU OVER TO THE COPS!

THAT'S WHAT YOU THINK!



JUST TRY IT!

WHA.. WHY.. YOU--!

I DIDN'T KILL UNCLE,
BUT I'M GONNA
KILL YOU!

CLUNK



FOR MINUTES THE TWO MEN
BATTLE DESPERATELY, EACH
KNOWING IT IS A FIGHT TO THE
DEATH... THEN...

OH-H-NN

WHAM



AGAIN AND AGAIN JUD WAYNE BRINGS DOWN
THE SHOVEL ON CHRIS MARLIN'S HEAD,
BEATING AND BATTERING IN A FRENZIED
RAGE THAT KNOWS NO BOUNDS.



ONLY BECAUSE HE IS PHYSICALLY Winded
DOES HE STOP HIS VICIOUS HAMMERING
WITH THE SHOVEL.

GOTTA BURY HIM! GOTTA BURY
THE BODY! GET IT OUT OF THE WAY!
WHERE'LL I DO IT? WHERE'S THE
BEST PLACE?



HERE'S THE PLACE,, RIGHT UNDER THE STAIRS. THE SHADOW OF 'EM WILL HIDE THE FRESH EARTH UNTIL THE DUST COLLECTS AGAIN!



JUD WORKS FRANTIC-ALLY, FURIOUSLY FOR HOURS. THE GRAY OF DAWN IS CRACKING THROUGH THE DOWNPOUR OUTSIDE. WHEN...

HEY,, WHAT THE!
"I'VE STRUCK
SOMETHING!"



JUD WAYNE BRINGS THE CANDLE DOWN INSIDE...

EBENEZER MARLIN!
1782-1863. HEY! THIS
IS THE OLD ANCESTOR'S
COFFIN! I'LL BE DARNED!



WITHIN AN HOUR JUD HAS COMPLETELY UNCOVERED THE COFFIN. WITH HIS PICK HE LOOSENS THE LID, PRIES IT UP ON ITS CREAKING HINGES. A NAUSEOUS ODOR PENETRATES HIS NOSTRILS, AND THE AIR ABOUT HIM SEEMS TO STIR, AS IF SOMEONE IS BRUSHING PAST HIM...



BUT HE IS NOT A SENSITIVE PERSON, AND HE GOES ABOUT HIS GRUESOME WORK...

IF ANYONE **DOES** SEE THE EARTH DISTURBED AND DIGS DOWN, WHAT'LL HE FIND? NOTHING BUT OLD EBENEZER'S COFFIN. NOBODY WILL THINK TO LOOK INSIDE OF THAT!



THEN SUDDENLY THERE IS A TREMENDOUS CRASH OF THUNDER, LIKE THE HEAVENS SCREAMING, AND A FLASH OF LIGHTNING THAT ILLUMINATES THE WHOLE COUNTRYSIDE.



AND DOWN IN THE CELLAR OF THE OLD MANSION...

AI-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y-Y!



HELP! HELP!
HELP!!



FOR HOURS JUD SCREAMS IN VAIN... AND THEN FINALLY... SOMEONE HEARS AND CALLS THE POLICE.

THERE'S THE
VOICE, SERG-
EANT! UNDER
THE STAIRS!



HELP,
HELP.

IT TAKES AN HOUR TO FREE JUD WAYNE, BUT AT LAST THE POLICE HAVE HIM OUT...

THE...GOLD!
THE GOLD!
AH-N-NNNN...

IT'S NO USE, BILL! THE MAN
IS DYING, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE
WE'VE GOT A KILLER HERE...
EVEN IF A DEAD ONE!
LOOK IN THAT COFFIN!



I'LL BE DOGGONED,
SERGEANT! A FRESH
BODY! AND HERE'S A
CANDLE AND SOME
BURNED PAPER! MAY-
BE IT'LL GIVE US A
CLUE AS TO WHAT
IT'S ALL ABOUT!

NOT A CHANCE!...
IT'S BURNED TO AN
ASH, BUT I WONDER
WHAT HE MEANT
ABOUT THE GOLD!
HE POINTED TO
THAT VAULT OVER
THERE!



THERE'S
CERTAINLY
NO GOLD
HERE!

BUT LOOK AT THESE
PRINTS, BILL! LIKE
THEY WERE MADE
BY SOMEONE WITH
A PEG LEG! THEY
LEAD TO THAT OUT-
SIDE DOOR. LET'S
FOLLOW 'EM!



OUTSIDE THE STORM HAS ENDED
AND A STRANGE TRAIL
LEADS DIRECTLY TOWARD
THE OCEAN!

THOSE PRINTS GO DOWN TO
THE SEA, THEN BACK TO THE
HOUSE, LIKE SOMEONE HAD
MADE A HUNDRED TRIPS
BACK AND FORTH! I DON'T
GET IT NOWHAW!



THERE ARE THE PRINTS
AS CLEAR AS DAYLIGHT!
A HUNDRED TRIPS TO AND
FROM THE VAULT. IT IS
SAID THAT ANOTHER
BRANCH OF EBENEZER'S
DESCENDANTS SETTLED
NEAR CHICAGO SOME
YEARS AGO. IF YOU ARE
ONE OF THEM, YOU CAN MISS
OLDEBENEZER'S GOLD
GOODBYE! THINGS
HAVEN'T TURNED OUT
THE WAY EBENEZER
HAD HOPED THEY WOULD!



THE END

BLACKHEADS "PET HATE"

Say Men, Girls in Choosing Date

What a "black mark" is the blackhead... according to men and girls popular enough to be choosy about dates!

"Nobody's dreamboat!" "Nobody's date bait!" And that's not all that's said of those who are careless about blackheads. But blackheads ARE ugly! Blackheads ARE grimy! And they DON'T look good in close-ups!

So can you blame the fellow who says, "Sure, I meet lots of girls who look cute at first glance. But if, on that second glance, I see dingy blackheads, it's good night!"

Or can you blame the girl who confesses, "I hate to go out with a fellow who has blackheads. If he's careless about that you're sure he'll embarrass you in other ways, too!"

But you — are YOUR ears burning? Well, you've company and, sad to say, good company. There are lots of otherwise attractive fellows and girls who could date anyone they like if they'd only realize how offensive blackheads are... and how easily and quickly they could get rid of them... if they want to!

"He-Man" Often Guilty of Blackhead Crime

Take your "he-man"... super at track, games, sports of all kinds... who thinks that after just a shower he's ready to go anywhere! And won't the girls all admire his muscles!

Sure they would! But not many dance floors are set up for hurdle races! You can't show off your snappy left hook when only cokes are in the ring. The "he-man" who's also clean-cut, will get the breaks wherever he is.

Even Cute Girls Become Careless

Easy, too easy, for a girl to think that if she has the latest in clothes and hair-do she needn't bother about blackheads. A little more make-up, she guesses, will take care of that. BUT MAKE-UP WON'T HIDE BLACKHEADS! Not unless it's plaster of paris, maybe! And even good make-up "slips" at a dance! So don't take chances, cute though you may be!

TAKE THESE TIPS TO BANISH BLACKHEADS

Keep skin clean by washing morning and night with warm, almost hot, water. Use good soap and plenty of it. And finish with cool water.

Extract every blackhead as soon as you see it — with a SAFE extractor. Don't use finger nails. Don't squeeze. That may mean infection, injured tissues, a marred skin.

Just be clean! Be quick! And be safe! That's easy! And that's ALL!



FELLOWS! GIRLS!
Keep Skin Clear and Clean!

UGLY BLACKHEADS OUT in Seconds with VACUTEX

NEW! SCIENTIFIC! VACUUM ACTION!

Amazing new VACUTEX is painless... safe... fast! In seconds you are rid of those ugly blackheads that clog the pores... make your skin look grimy and dingy... give others such a wrong impression of you. VACUTEX creates a gentle vacuum pressure around the blackhead and extracts it — quickly! — without injury to tender skin tissues. Keep skin always clear this new scientific way. Without painful squeezing! Without dangerous infection from germ-y fingers! Just place VACUTEX over blackhead and draw back extractor. Blackhead's out! Simple! But you'll be delighted by your instantly improved appearance. Others will notice your clearer, cleaner skin! Try VACUTEX — now!



ACTUAL
LENGTH
3 1/2"

RUSH
COUPON
NOW!

**10 DAY
TRIAL OFFER**

Don't send a penny. Mail coupon and pay postman only \$1.00 plus postage. Or save all postage by enclosing \$1.00 with guarantee coupon. If not thrilled to be rid of embarrassing blackheads this new quick way — just return VACUTEX in 10 days and get \$1 back. Order today!



**No Squeezing
No Infection
No Injury
to Skin
Tissues!**



Just place VACUTEX over blackhead — release extractor — and blackhead's out!

10 DAY TRIAL GUARANTEE

BALCO PRODUCTS COMPANY, Dept. 51,

19 West 44th St., New York 18, N. Y.

☐ Enclosed find \$1.00. Send me VACUTEX postpaid.

☐ Ship C.O.D. I will pay postman \$1.00 plus postage.

My dollar will be refunded if I am not delighted.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

SORRY NO C.O.D. OUTSIDE OF U.S.A.

Dearest Thyra:

By the time you receive this I will be quite dead... am dead now in fact, but hate will keep me going until I tell you the whole story. You must be very brave...



CHARLIE KENNEDY WAS A LOVING HUSBAND UNTIL THE NIGHT HE CALLED ON NATHAN BOYD. AFTER THAT HE BECAME A...

HATING CORPSE

THE MEETING BETWEEN NATHAN BOYD AND CHARLIE KENNEDY AT 8:30 P.M. ON THE NIGHT OF OCTOBER 16, 1952, BEGAN IN A VERY FRIENDLY MANNER, WITH NO INDICATION WHATEVER OF WHAT WAS TO FOLLOW!

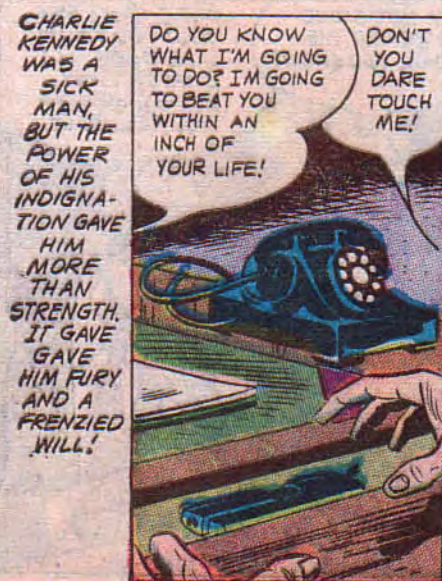
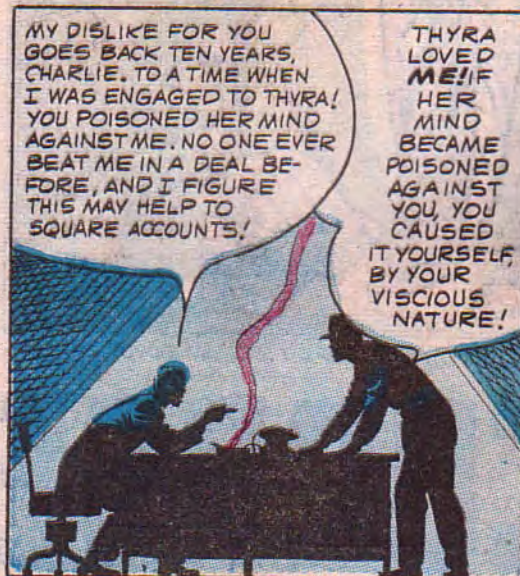
IT WAS GOOD OF YOU TO WAIT FOR ME, NATHAN. I WAS UNABLE TO GET A TRAIN INTO THE CITY ANY EARLIER.

DRAW UP A CHAIR, CHARLIE. I'M ALWAYS WILLING TO WAIT AROUND FOR A THOUSAND DOLLARS.

I'M NOT GOING TO RENEW THE LOAN, YOU KNOW!

BUT I CAN'T PAY YOU! YOU KNOW I'VE BEEN ILL! I HAVEN'T ANY MONEY. HOW CAN YOU COLLECT?







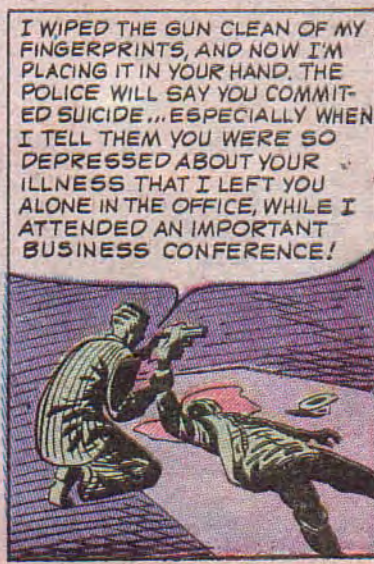
I HAVE ALL THE NERVE IN THE WORLD!... NERVE ENOUGH TO GET AWAY WITH MURDER AND MAKE IT STICK!



HE IS QUITE DEAD... QUITE DEAD INDEED!



AND DO YOU KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO DO NOW CHARLIE? WELL, I'LL TELL YOU!

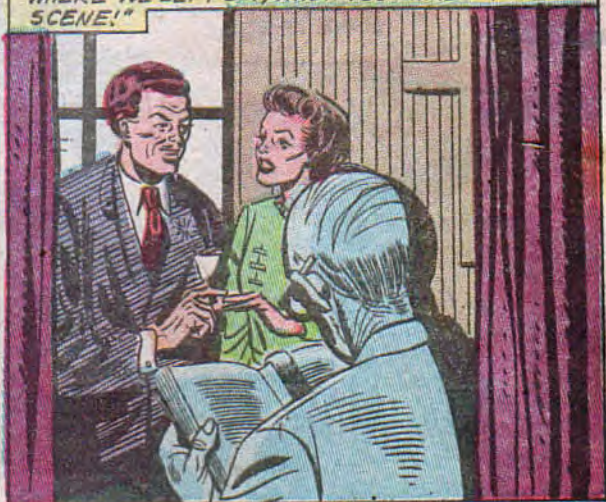


I WIPED THE GUN CLEAN OF MY FINGERPRINTS, AND NOW I'M PLACING IT IN YOUR HAND. THE POLICE WILL SAY YOU COMMITTED SUICIDE... ESPECIALLY WHEN I TELL THEM YOU WERE SO DEPRESSED ABOUT YOUR ILLNESS THAT I LEFT YOU ALONE IN THE OFFICE, WHILE I ATTENDED AN IMPORTANT BUSINESS CONFERENCE!

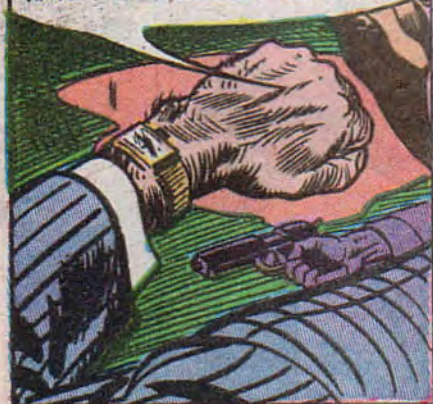
BOYD CONTINUED HIS REVERIE ALOUD, SEEMING TO ENJOY ITS POSSIBILITIES! I WILL BE KINDNESS ITSELF TO THYRA!



"WHO KNOWS WHERE IT WILL LEAD CHARLIE? PERHAPS THYRA AND I WILL CONTINUE FROM WHERE WE LEFT OFF, WHEN YOU CAME ON THE SCENE!"



YES, AND CONVENIENTLY ENOUGH, THERE IS A MEETING OF LOAN BROKERS THIS VERY EVENING! I'LL BE A LITTLE LATE, BUT I HAVE AN EXCELLENT EXCUSE!



ALTHOUGH CHARLIE KENNEDY WAS DEAD, THE HATE FOR NATHAN BOYD LIVED ON WITHIN HIS SOUL! IT BECAME THE BLOOD IN HIS EMPTY ARTERIES AND FIRED THE CELLS OF HIS BRAIN...

HE WILL RETURN! HE'LL HAVE TO RETURN TO FIND MY BODY... AND I CAN WAIT... I HAVE PLENTY OF TIME...



IT WAS TWO IN THE MORNING BEFORE NATHAN BOYD ROSE AT THE LOAN BROKERS MEETING...

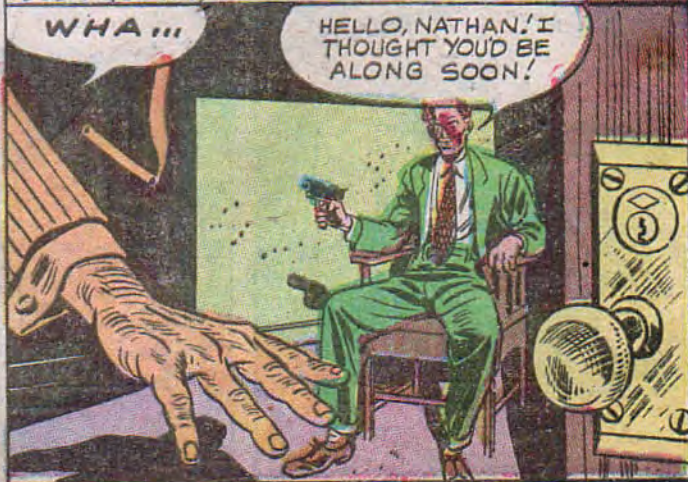
IF THERE'S NO MORE BUSINESS, I'LL BE GOING. I LEFT A VERY GOOD FRIEND OF MINE AT MY OFFICE! HE WAS QUITE ILL AND I'M WORRIED ABOUT HIM!

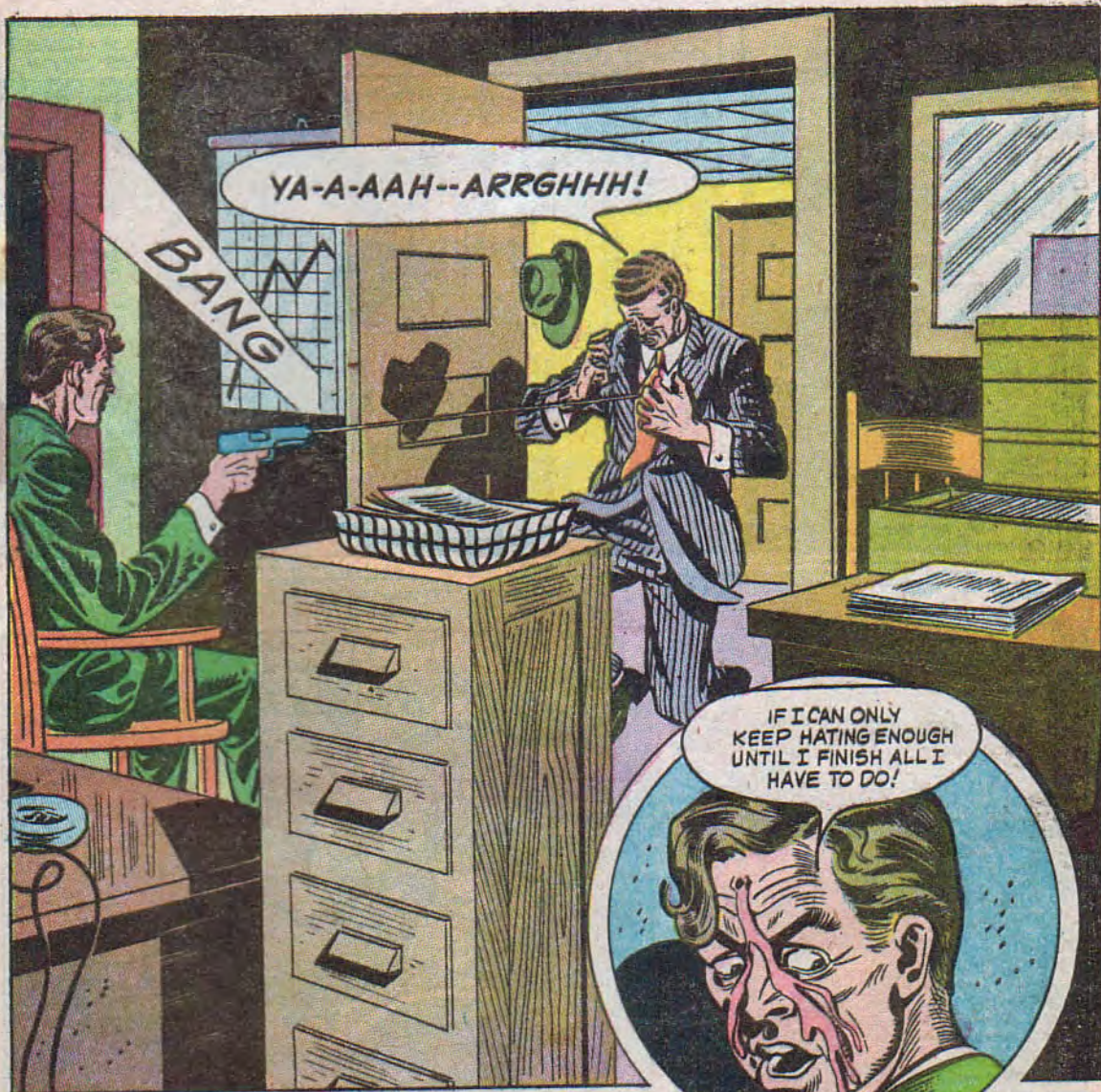


BOYD DROVE STRAIGHT TO HIS OFFICE BUILDING, TOOK THE THREE FLIGHTS TO HIS OFFICE WITH MEASURED, CONFIDENT STEPS... OPENING THE DOOR QUIETLY, HE STEPPED INSIDE...

WHA...

HELLO, NATHAN! I THOUGHT YOU'D BE ALONG SOON!





YA-A-AAH--ARRGHHH!

BANG

IF I CAN ONLY
KEEP HATING ENOUGH
UNTIL I FINISH ALL I
HAVE TO DO!

I MUST TELL THYRA WHAT HAS HAPPENED! I
MUST WRITE HER EVERYTHING!

FOR
A
HALF
HOUR
CHARLIE
KENNEDY
WROTE
FURIOUSLY.
TIME
COULD
BE
RUNNING
OUT!



HURRY!
I MUST
HURRY!

HE HURRIED DOWN THE STAIRS WITH HIS FATEFUL LETTER...

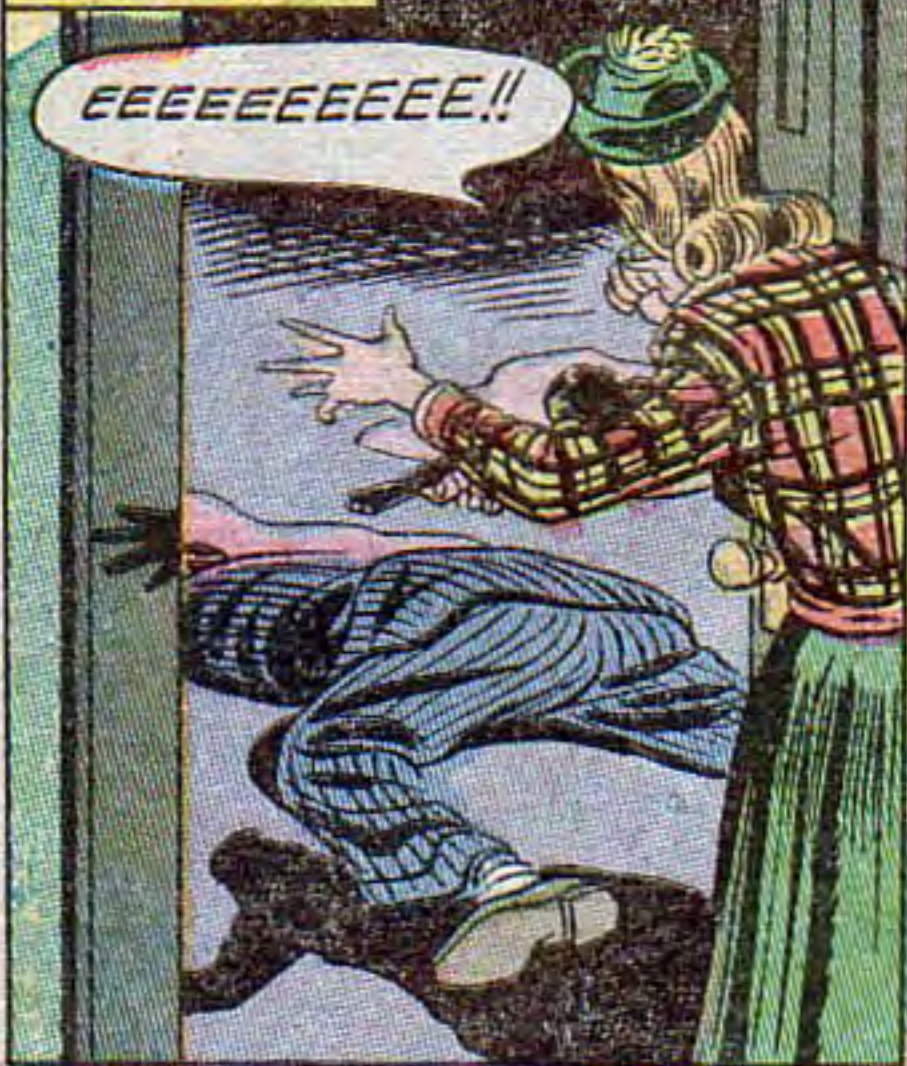


THE MORNING AIR WAS CRISP AND COOL BUT CHARLIE KENNEDY DID NOT KNOW IT. HE WAS DEAD. BUT HATE STILL DROVE HIM ON...



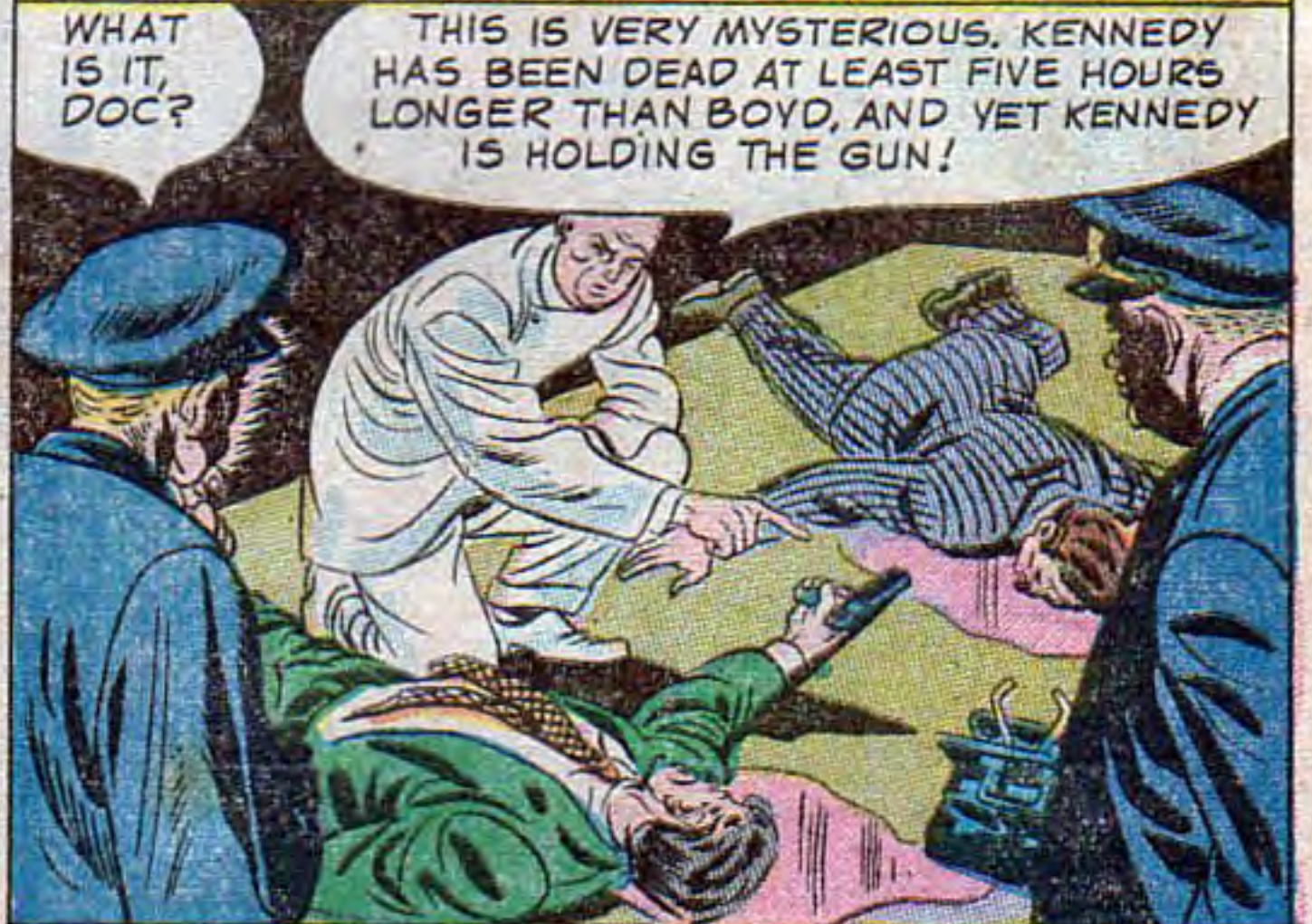
I MADE IT! NOW I MUST GET BACK!

AT 9 A.M.



EEEEEEEEEE!!

IN A SHORT TIME THE POLICE AND MEDICAL EXAMINER ARRIVED ON THE SCENE.....



WHAT IS IT, DOC?

THIS IS VERY MYSTERIOUS. KENNEDY HAS BEEN DEAD AT LEAST FIVE HOURS LONGER THAN BOYD, AND YET KENNEDY IS HOLDING THE GUN!

THAT COULDN'T BE! HOW COULD A CORPSE KILL BOYD?

THAT'S JUST WHAT HE **DID**, DOC! COME HERE!



MAYBE KENNEDY COMMITTED SUICIDE, MAYBE HE WAS BUMPED OFF! ANYWAY, ENOUGH TIME HAD PASSED FOR RIGOR-MORTIS TO SET IN. WHEN BOYD CAME IN THE DOOR, HE PICKED THE RIGHT TIME FOR THE TIGHTENING TRIGGER FINGER TO CLOSE ON THE TRIGGER!

WELL, I'LL BE DOG-GONED! KILLED BY A CORPSE!

WELL, THAT'S THAT. I SUPPOSE IT'LL BE MY JOB TO GO AND BREAK THE NEWS TO THE WIDOW! ... THAT'S THE WORST JOB OF ALL!



THE END.

KILL THESE HAIR-DESTROYING GERMS

WITH WARD'S FORMULA

PIETROSPORIUM
OVALE

STAPHYLOCOCCUS
ALBUS

MOROCOCCUS

MICROBACILLUS

NOTHING, Absolutely nothing
known to Science can do more to

SAVE YOUR HAIR

Beware of your itchy scalp, hair loss, dandruff, head scales, unpleasant head odors! Nature may be warning you of approaching baldness. Heed Nature's warning! Treat your scalp to scientifically prepared Ward's Formula.

Millions of trouble-breeding bacteria, living on your sick scalp (see above) are killed on contact. Ward's Formula kills not one, but all four types of these destructive scalp germs now recognized by many medical authorities as a significant cause of baldness. Kill these germs—don't risk letting them kill your hair growth.

ENJOY THESE 5 BENEFITS IMMEDIATELY

1. Kills these 4 types of germs that retard normal hair growth—on contact
2. Removes ugly infectious dandruff—fast
3. Brings hair-nourishing blood to scalp—quickly
4. Stops annoying scalp itch and burn—instantly
5. Starts wonderful self-massaging action—within 3 seconds

Once you're bald, that's it, friends! There's nothing you can do. Your hair is gone forever. So are your chances of getting it back. But Ward's Formula, used as directed, keeps your sick scalp free of itchy dandruff, seborrhea, and stops the hair loss they cause. Almost at once your hair looks thicker, more attractive and alive.

We don't ask you to believe us. Thousands of men and women—first skeptical just as you are—have proved what we say. Read their, grateful letters. Study the guarantee—it's better than a free trial! Then try Ward's Formula at our risk. Use it for only 10 short days. You must enjoy all the benefits we claim—or we return not only the price you pay—but **DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK**. You be the judge! © Ward Laboratories, Inc., 1430 Broadway, New York 18, N.Y.

TO SAVE YOUR HAIR ACT NOW

Send coupon today for 10-day offer. Send No Money

SCALP ITCH
FALLING
HAIR

DANDRUFF

HEAD
ODORS

Proof!

We get letters like these every day from grateful men and women all over the world.

I must admit I didn't have much faith in it, but I hadn't been using Ward's one week before I could see it was helping me. I could feel my hair getting thicker.

E. K., Cleveland, Ohio

Out of all the Hair Experts I went to, I've gotten the most help from one bottle of Ward's Formula.

C. La M., Philadelphia, Pa.

After using Ward's for only 12 days, my hair has stopped falling out.

R. W. C., Cicero, Ill.

I am tickled to death with the results. In just two weeks' time—no dandruff! W. T. W., Portola, Cal.

I feel encouraged to say that the infuriating scalp itch which has bothered me for 5 years is now gone.

J. M. R., Columbus, Ohio

Guarantee

This written guarantee entitles you not only to return of price paid for Ward's Formula, but **Double Your Money Back** unless you actually SEE, FEEL, and ENJOY all benefits herein claimed in only ten days. The test is at our risk. All you do is return unused portion or the empty bottle unless completely satisfied.

Ward Laboratories, Inc.

SEAL

© 1949 ACT TODAY or YOU MAY BE TOO LATE!

Ward Laboratories, Inc.,
1430 Broadway, Dept. 6001-W, New York 18, N.Y.

Rush Ward's Formula to me at once. I will pay postman two dollars plus postage. I must be completely satisfied within 10 days, or you GUARANTEE refund of **DOUBLE MY MONEY BACK** upon return of bottle and unused portion.

Name
Address
City Zone State

☐ Check here if you enclose \$2.00 with order, and we will pay postage. Same refund offer holds, of course.

APO, FPO, Canada & Foreign add 25c; no CODs.

DOUBLE YOUR MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

She'll be your "Dream Girl"
You'll "Bewitch" her with it

Bewitching

Daring
"BLACK
MAGIC"



"DREAM GIRL" She'll look alluring, breathtaking, enticing, exotic... Just picture her in it... a beautiful, fascinating SEE-THRU sheer. Naughty but nice... It's French Fashion Sherry... with peek-a-boo magic lace... gorgeously transparent yet completely practical (washes like a dream... will not shrink). Has lacy waistline, lacy shoulder straps and everything to make her love you for it. A charm revealing Dream Girl Fashion... In gorgeous Black.

Satisfaction Guaranteed or your money back.

DREAM GIRL FASHIONS DEPT. 125
318 MARKET ST., NEWARK, N. J.

Please send me DREAM GIRL gown at \$9.95. If not entirely satisfied, I'll return within 10 days for full cash refund.

() I enclose \$9.95 cash, check or money order, send postage prepaid (I save up to 90¢ postage). (You may get it at our store too!)

() I will pay postman \$9.95 plus postage. Check size wanted:

☐ 32 ☐ 34 ☐ 36 ☐ 38 ☐ 40

IN BLACK ONLY

(If you don't know the size send approximate height and weight.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Heaven-Sent

Oriental Magic



Out of the pages of the Arabian Nights comes this glamorous sheer. Maroon pajama. She'll look beguiling, alluring, irresistible, enticing. She'll thrill to the sleek, clinging wispy appeal that they will give her. She'll love you for transplanting her to a dream world of seduction centuries old. Brief figure hugging top gives flattering appeal to its daring bare midriff. Doubled at the right places it's the perfect answer for hostess wear. Billowing sheer bottoms for rich luxurious lounging. She'll adore you for this charm revealing Dream Girl Fashion. In wispy sheer black.

Satisfaction Guaranteed or your money back.

DREAM GIRL FASHIONS DEPT. 308
318 MARKET ST., NEWARK, N. J.

Please send HEAVEN SENT gown at \$9.95. If not entirely satisfied, I'll return within 10 days for full cash refund.

() I enclose \$9.95 cash, check or money order, send postage prepaid (I save up to 90¢ postage). (You may get it at our store too!)

() I will pay postman \$9.95 plus postage. Check size wanted:

☐ 32 ☐ 34 ☐ 36 ☐ 38 ☐ 40

IN BLACK ONLY

(If you don't know the size send approximate height and weight.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

Black Sorcery



Daring
Bare-bac
She'll be
entranced
with it

Your Dream Girl will be an exquisite vision of allurements, charm, fascination and loveliness in this exotic, bewitching, daring, bare-back, filmy sheer gown. Its delicate, translucent fabric (washes like a dream) will not shrink. Paris at home, with this cleverly designed halter neck that ties or unties at the back of a finger. Lavishly laced midriff and peek-a-boo bottom. She'll love you for this charm revealing Dream Girl Fashion. In exquisite black sheer.

Satisfaction Guaranteed or your money back.

DREAM GIRL FASHIONS DEPT. 423
318 MARKET ST., NEWARK, N. J.

Please send BLACK SORCERY gown at \$9.95. If not entirely satisfied, I'll return within 10 days for full cash refund.

() I enclose \$9.95 cash, check or money order, send postage prepaid (I save up to 90¢ postage). (You may get it at our store too!)

() I will pay postman \$9.95 plus postage. Check size wanted:

☐ 32 ☐ 34 ☐ 36 ☐ 38 ☐ 40

IN BLACK ONLY

(If you don't know the size send approximate height and weight.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____

SAVE 70%

SACRIFICE SALE! SWISS WATCHES

FORCED TO RAISE CASH! CREDITORS DEMAND PAYMENT!

We're in a tight fix! We need cash QUICK to pay our bills! Our creditors won't wait! They demand payment NOW. Our misfortune is your LUCKY BREAK! You save PLENTY on these wonderful watches. Look them over! Where in all America can you get such terrific bargains? Examine... enjoy any watch FREE of risk or obligation for a whole week! Your money back if not delighted! SEND NO MONEY. Just check off watches desired in coupon. Pay low price on delivery - not one red cent more! GIVEN! Expensive looking Expansion Band. Guarantee Certificate, instructions and GIFT with every watch. Get on the band wagon and SAVE! Rush coupon NOW to famous: **U. S. DIAMOND HOUSE, Dept. 129 West 33rd Street, New York 1, N.Y.**

**TAKE YOUR PICK . . .
TRY AT OUR RISK!**



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AMAZING accuracy the watch with the "MECHANICAL BRAIN" that actually answers your questions on distance and speed! It tells you how fast cars, planes and horses go. Also measures distance and times sports, photography, lighting, pulse beats, etc. Besides it's a handsome, precision-built watch that wins admiration everywhere!

COMPARE WITH \$29.50 WATCHES!

Has 2 PUSH-BUTTONS that start and stop movement. * Tele-meter & Telemeter Dials. * Split-second Calibrations. * Radium numbers and hands that glow at night. * Unbreakable crystal. * Center Sweep hand. * Rugged construction for long, hard use. * Special Metal-Link band. Guarantee and operating instructions given. Order by No. 236. Sale price complete...\$6.95



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Sturdy Swiss
Watch for

MEN & BOYS Bargain!

A dandy looking Swiss watch at a BARGAIN price! Regulated and inspected to assure accuracy! Has many quality features found in watches selling for much more! America's BIG value! Handsome, rich looking. Flexible metal band given. Full satisfaction GUARANTEED or your money back! You risk nothing! So don't miss this terrific bargain! No extras - complete price, only \$4.95

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Date changes
in window
every
day

Tells time
Gives DATE!

CALENDAR WATCH

NOW YOU'RE at a glance... the second, minute, hour and DATE too! This remarkable Swiss watch has a built-in AUTOMATIC CALENDAR that changes the date every day. It's fascinating to see the date pop into the tiny window day after day! It's a well made, accurate timepiece you'll wear with pride. Attractive THIN case in the color of Sterling Silver, luminous numbers and hands, fine sweep second hand and Klearview unbreakable crystal. Try for 7 days FREE of obligation - your money back if you are not thrilled with this wonderful watch! Compare it with other watches selling up to \$29.95 for rich appearance and accuracy. A real bargain! Our price is fully paid - you don't pay one cent extra! Order now by Number 256. Get yours NOW - special SACRIFICE price...\$6.88



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**RUNS UNDER
WATER!**

**Submarine
Water-Protected Watch**

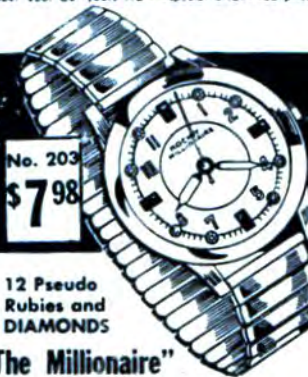


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BANG IT!**

**SHOCK
RESISTANT WATCH**

The STAFF SHOCK ABSORBER built right into this remarkable watch is one of the great inventions of this century. Saves you time, worry, aggravation! NOW you don't have to take your watch all when playing baseball, football, tennis! YES... bang it... hit it... even DROP it. Actually defies breakage. In fact, we'll send you one on a trial for a whole week! YOUR MONEY BACK IF YOU BREAK IT! Has night glowing luminous He's and hands, sweep-second band, unbreakable crystal, rich design and FLEXIBLE metal band. Don't lose this lifetime opportunity! Order now by No. 260. Full price...not 1 cent extra...\$6.97



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Rubies and
DIAMONDS**

**"The Millionaire"
ARISTOCRAT**

Last word in smart styling for men! Smart imitation rubies and diamonds around the dial! Accurate, dependable, SWISS movement. WHITE GOLD color offset case and matching flexible band. Has Sweep-Second band. Unbreakable crystal. This watch makes a terrific impression everywhere... looks like a \$100.00 timepiece and it's very ACCURATE too! We give you 7 full days to try it and compare it with watches selling for much more. Your money back GUARANTEED if you aren't 100% satisfied! RUSH order now and SAVE! Number 203. Your price, only \$7.98

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FREE repair service ANYTIME if needed by skilled watchmakers for the LIFE-
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you are not satisfied with your pur-
chase after home trial, return for
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RUSH watch(es) checked for full week's TRIAL FREE of risk. I will pay postman price shown - NO EXTRAS - on delivery. GIVEN: No. 317 Aristocrat Ring. Guarantee. Band at no extra charge.

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Chronograph Sturdy Swiss Calendar Shock Resistant Submarine Millionaire

Name _____

Address _____ Town & State _____

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new figure mold HIDE-A-WAIST

17 Sensational Features

Streamline Your Waist

Hide Bulges

Say "good-bye" to that unbecoming tummy bulge and clumsy waistline . . . AND instead . . . enjoy what you need most for your figure with HIDE-A-WAIST. Wear it and presto-chango — like magic you have graceful alluring curves. The unwanted bulge is evenly and comfortably banished. There are 17 sectional features that effect flattering curves. Keeps you smoothly shapely no matter what angle . . . sit, bend, stand or walk with comfortable, even grace. The secret of glamorous, stylish, women is to look graceful and alluring with a thinned waist line.

ADJUSTABLE To Tailor-Made Fit

The adjustable features allow you to get the custom fit perfection, comfort and attractiveness of a tailor fit. It's practically made to order for your figure. Gives you poise and posture. The 17 sections automatically mold your figure.

You get the support you need with unbelievable comfort. The specially designed concave effect permits HIDE-A-WAIST to adapt itself to your own diaphragm. You've never seen anything like it. You've never enjoyed so much freedom, comfort and style in anything else you've worn. The four extra-length detachable garters complete HIDE-A-WAIST. Comfortable too, without garters.

BEAUTIFUL IN YOUR HAND EXQUISITE ON YOUR FORM

You'll marvel at the value and beauty when you see your new HIDE-A-WAIST . . . BUT . . . when you put it on and see your new self, you'll be the happiest girl in the world. You'll look as thin and graceful as a sixteen-year-old nymph. Order your HIDE-A-WAIST now. It's new and not available in stores. Order direct without risk. You must be 100% delighted or we refund your money. Comes in sizes up to 40. The introductory price is indeed a bargain. Sizes up to 34 only \$2.98, plus postage. Sizes 35 and over One Dollar extra. (50c extra for the four extra-length detachable adjustable garters.)

ONLY
2⁹⁸
2 FOR
\$5.85

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836 Broadway, New York 3, N. Y.

Rush my new HIDE-A-WAIST three-in-one at once. If I am not thrillingly satisfied I will return it after 10-day FREE trial for prompt refund of full purchase price.

Size (waist size in inches).

Also send sets of extra-length detachable and adjustable garters at only 50c for set of four.
☐ Send C.O.D. I will pay postman on delivery plus few cents postage.
☐ I enclose payment. The S. J. Wegman Co. will pay postage.

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17 Sectional Features . . .
Streamline Waistline . . .
Adjustable . . .
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made of Leno Lastex, satin-faced rayon. Fully guaranteed. Lightweight. Cool — Ventilated. Will not wrinkle or ride up. Sizes 20 to 40.



HIDE-A-WAIST

Back View



You will look charmingly chic in your new Hide-A-Waist. Your stylish waistline will add new glamour to your favorite frocks. . . . you will walk with an "air" of satisfaction and poise.

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NOTE Fashion has emphasized the streamlined waist. Be up to the minute when you parade your pretty self . . . order your HIDE-A-WAIST now! Send direct to us for your HIDE-A-WAIST today. Wear it 10 days FREE and, if not delighted, return for prompt refund of full purchase price. Act at once, while this introductory offer is open. Just fill in coupon and drop it in the mail. We ship C.O.D. plus postage. But hurry coupon